

# VALLEY FREE PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S  
GAY & LESBIAN OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 7 NO. 1

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2004

SERVING THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY SINCE 1998!



## FACT BINGO

Fighting AIDS Continuously Together (FACT) presents its annual Bingo Fundraiser on Sunday, Feb. 8 beginning at 1:30pm at the Radison Hotel, Bethlehem. Only \$15 dollars to play, large grand prizes and other surprises. For all the details, see, FACT's web page at: [FACTLV.org](http://FACTLV.org).

## GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRESENTS



Remember Oliver, Fagan, the Artful Dodger, and Nancy Sykes? You'll never see them the same way again after the Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus presents "Oliver with a Twist". You'll laugh, you'll cry, your pockets will be picked.

The cabaret will be performed in Allentown at MCCLV, on February 27 and 28 at 8:00pm and on March 5, 6, and 7 at Odette's in New Hope. Admission to the Allentown performances is \$12, with tickets available at the door, from any Chorus member, or by calling (610) 366-3320. Reservations for the show at Odette's must be made by calling (215) 862-2432. (Make reservations early, last year's show was sold out.)



**IDENTITY OF  
ANTI-MINORITY  
ANONYMOUS PHONE  
CALLER DISCOVERED**  
SEE WHAT'S THAT ABOUT: PAGE 6

**VFP LAUDS LOCAL 2003 CIVIL RIGHTS  
SUCCESSSES & THE INDIVIDUALS &  
GROUPS WHO MADE THEM HAPPEN**

## READINGS OF SHORT STORIES...WITH COFFEE



MCCLV will be hosting a new community wide event on the 1st Friday of each month running through April 2004. "Readings of Short Stories with Coffee," will be similar to the NPR radio program "Selected Shorts." A new reader each month will be reading light, humorous selections from various authors. Friday, Jan 2 will feature a collection of short stories. Friday, Feb. 6 will include "Name Games" by Michael Dorris and "A Wagner Matinee" by Willa Cather. The public is welcome and refreshments will be provided. For more information see [www.mcclv.org](http://www.mcclv.org).

## MCCLV & PFLAG PRESENT NATIONAL FREEDOM TO MARRY DAY - FEB 14

PFLAG & MCCLV Present...National Freedom to Marry Day 2004, February 14, at MCCLV at 7 p.m. The event will consist of a worship service and party/dance. In addition to a same-sex marriage ceremony, a blessing of relationships will be offered. Couples who would like to participate in the marriage ceremony or the relationship blessing may contact the church at 610-709-8800. MCCLV is at 1901 South 12th St. Merchant's Square Mall.

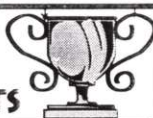
Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley  
observes

### National Freedom to Marry Day

**Ceremony, Celebration & Dance  
February 14, at MCCLV, 7pm**

## MARRIAGE EQUALITY ACTION FEB.13

MCC churches across the country plan to go to local county courthouses on February 13, to bring attention to the need for legal same-sex marriage. If you are interested in participating, contact MCCLV: 610-709-8800.



Service Award  
SEE PAGE 7

## GLSEN PLANS FOR 2004

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network) meetings are now being held the fourth Monday of the month at MCCLV, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For information call - 610-867-6641.

GLSEN is currently working on several projects including helping area students take part in the National Day of Silence, on April 21. On the Day of Silence students vow not to speak all day in a peaceful demonstration of silence, signifying what many GLBT youth must maintain for their own safety, and the lack of open communication and support with regard to GLBT issues. There will also be a Break the Silence Rally that evening. A HEAL the HURT conference is also planned for fall.



# THERE WILL BE NO FEBRUARY VFP



## What's That About?



Readers write or email  
"What's That About?"  
editors with questions  
about gay and lesbian issues.



**Dear WTA:** Hate mail and hate phone calls have been aimed at members of the LV minority community over the last three years. Has there been any success in finding out who is responsible for this harassment? **Signed, Pro-Minority Activist**

**Dear PMA:** These letters and calls have been sent to intimidate people who support fairness and justice. The person making the rude, harassing calls seems to be different from the person who writes the lewd and obscene letters. For purposes of clarity, we'll call them the "Phone Suspect" and the "Letter Suspect." We and others are still working on finding out who the "Letter Suspect" is. But we have been successful in finding out who the "Phone Suspect" is, and stopping him.

The success came because several people all shared information. Harassing phone calls had been made to a variety of people, usually as a result of an article or letter to the editor in the Morning Call. The calls were anonymous and often left on answering machines.

Several years ago Steve Black noticed that a call left on his answering machine was similar in content to a letter to the editor appearing in the Morning Call. The content included a distinctive catch phrase.

Because Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by a name and town address, we were able to find the number and address of the "Phone Suspect" in the phone book. We kept this information on file and told anyone who received a harassing anti-minority phone call that the call may very well be from the "Phone Suspect."

Finally, someone who had gotten a particularly rude call, got up the nerve to call back the number we had provided. They got an answering machine, but the low gravelly voice on the machine was obviously the same person who had left the harassing message. The caller decided to leave the "Phone Suspect" a non-threatening message - after all, he was just returning the person's call. While doing so, the "Phone Suspect" picked up, and confirmed that he had been the anonymous caller. So we'll now call him the "Phone Caller."

During a recent series of articles in the Morning Call about pro-gay Episcopal Churches, Father Patrick Malloy received a harassment call from the "Phone Caller." Father Malloy called the "Phone Caller" back and left a message saying: "Mr. \_\_\_? Hi, this is Father Patrick Malloy of Grace Episcopal Church in Allentown. You left a message on my machine and I am just returning your call." Anonymous callers are notorious cowards, so needless to say, the "Phone Caller" didn't call back. So Father Malloy called him a few more times again leaving pleasant messages.

So far, the "Phone Caller," seems to have stopped calling people. Nothing like the light of day to dry up anonymous cowards. If you or anyone you know has received anti-minority harassment calls, please call Valley Free Press. We will be happy to give you the name and phone book number of the "Phone Caller" who has already admitted to making these calls. We do not encourage anyone to harass him back. But if he calls you, politely calling him back at a reasonable hour is only fair. Once the "Phone Caller" knows that you know who he is, he will stop calling you, and will probably be even less likely to harass other people.

## GLORA

For information on upcoming Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (GLORA) events write GLORA at: GLORAinPA@aol.com or at GLORA PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541.

2



## RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

### GET-RICH-QUICK Schemes to Avoid

I used to joke that my ex should come with a warning label tied to her neck, to alert other lesbians as to what is surely deceptive advertising. She looked great on paper, but six months later I wanted to sue for fraud. It is hard to spot the fakes, especially when they have a great sassy haircut, but if something seems too good to be true, it usually is.

The same goes for ads that appeal to our desire to make big bucks fast, lose weight, or avoid the taxes that everyone else seems to be paying. Since the Federal Trade Commission, which is supposed to monitor "fraudulent claims," hasn't been very effective in stopping the phonies (did anyone else try Dream Away - the all-natural supplement that melted the pounds away while you slept?), I am sharing a short list of ads I've received via email that will surely break our wallets and almost guarantee a come-visit-us-soon letter from the IRS.

**Get Rich In Your Spare Time!** Did you know you could "earn \$200,000 a year working part-time"? Not true, unless you happen to be a corporate board member. You may have noticed these companies collect hefty up-front fees before sending you any details. That's your first clue to steer clear.

**Incorporate Yourself!** Reduce your taxes, protect your assets, get new credit, and hide money from lawsuits! What's more, you can subsidize your personal expenses by running them through your corporation and deduct them on your taxes! WRONG! Only legitimate businesses can incorporate, but there are plenty of seminars around that will suggest you attend a seminar and hand over hundreds of dollars. If you need to hide assets from creditors, you have bigger problems. If you really want to incorporate, speak to your attorney and financial planner and find out how to do it legitimately or to discuss whether it is appropriate.

**Donate Your Car To Charity and Make \$\$\$!** Sadly, little money actually winds up in charitable hands; fraud experts say less than 30 percent of a car's value ever goes to the supposed charities.

**Erase Bad Credit!** Fake credit-repair clinics pop up all the time and love the Internet to lure in new people in dire financial straits. I'll bet your email in-box has one in it right now! Any company that suggests you can erase true, negative items from your credit report should also be telling you that you'd be committing fraud. For real help with your debt, try MyVista, a recommended debt relief expert endorsed by Kiplingers and Forbes. They also claim to be gay-friendly.

**Guaranteed 16% Returns!!** Want to see what a real guaranteed return looks like? Check into the interest on a one-year Treasury bill. Anything higher and the investor is taking some kind of risk. Double-digit "guaranteed" or "safe" returns on an investment in this market are, to be sure, a scam.

Denise McKelvey, CFS is a financial advisor for American Express Financial located at 5100 Tilghman Street Suite 170 Allentown PA 18104. Please mail or email questions to denise.mckelvey@aexp.com. Information contained in this article may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

## SEVEN SENSES

Walk 7 Senses Healing Labyrinth: Sat. January 3 & February 7 1-4p.m. FREE. Healing Circle: Monday January 5 & February 2, 7-8, facilitated by Kathy Heckler, FREE. Drum Circle: January 9, & February 13, 7 p.m. \$5 Suggested Contribution. Jim Steager leads the way! Breathing Workshop: Saturday January 10, 1-3 p.m. FREE. Dr. Robert Roush. Reiki Share, Attention all reiki practitioners! 1-3 p.m., January 24 & February 28, Reiki practitioner Kathy Heckler will host. Women's Drum Circle! January 27 & February 24 6:30- 8 p.m. Cat Coley facilitates. Journaling Workshop, writing can help you work through problems, Sat., Jan. 31, 1-3p.m. FREE Kathy Heckler.



# HOT NEWS

## B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB

Barnes and Noble Gay and Lesbian Book Discussion Group: As previously scheduled, the group will meet on the third Tuesday, January 20 from 7:00-8:30PM in the Cafe to discuss the book "At Swim, Two Boys" by Jamie O'Neill.

Since Tuesdays present a conflict for many schedules the Group will be meeting the second Thursday of each month starting with the February meeting to take place February 12 from 7:00-8:30PM in the cafe. Each participant will receive a complimentary beverage as always. The book for February is "The City and the Pillar." This classic novel by Gore Vidal, "depicts a homosexual encounter between two young, all-American athletic types, and the torch that one carries for the other."

In March the group will meet in the Cafe on Thursday, March 11 at 7:00PM and discuss the book, "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter". Another classic novel by a Southern Gothic writer: Carson McCullers. Its emphasis is on individuals who are considered outcasts of society for any reason and the moral isolation experienced. For information please contact Barnes and Noble at: [crm2636@bn.com](mailto:crm2636@bn.com) Everyone is invited.

## MCC MOVIES

Lenten Movie Series -- At MCCLV  
Free food! Subs, chips and drinks provided! 7 p.m. every Wednesday of Lent Come together to discuss the religious themes in contemporary movies. We will be learning how to view popular culture through a trained religious eye.

March 3, Topic: Capital Punishment, Movie: "Dead Man Walking"

March 10, Topic: Guns, Movie: "Bowling for Columbine"

March 17, Topic: Oppression at the Workplace, Movie: "9 to 5"

March 24, Topic: Non-violence vs. Resistance, Movie: "Mission"

March 31, Topic: The Working Poor, Movie: "Set It Off"

April 7, Topic: Being Yourself, Movie: "Boys Don't Cry"

\*\*\*Some of these movies contain adult themes, sexuality, foul language, and violent scenes. No one under the age of 18 will be permitted without a parent or guardian. Please register for the entire series or just one movie by e-mailing MCCLV at [mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com) or calling 610-709-8800.

## HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQ youth ages 14 - 20. For information: [havenfacilitators@yahoo.com](mailto:havenfacilitators@yahoo.com) or 610-868-2153.

## NEW TIME FOR "GAY - AA"

Open Discussion Wednesday Evenings 7:30 p.m. Doors Open and coffee at 7:00pm -- Gratitude And You Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous -- at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley, 1901 South 12th Street, Room 208. Contact Person- Joanie W. 610-966-1992.

## 19TH ST MOVIES

For Movie Enthusiasts: Here's what's coming up at the 19th Street Film Series:

- DIE MOMMIE DIE Dec. 27 - Jan. 4

- SPIKE & MIKE'S FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION

- The New Year's Day tradition returns!

- LUTHER Jan. 3-11

- THE STATION AGENT Jan. 10-18

- THE TRIPLETS OF BELLEVILLE Jan. 17-25

Call or check local listings for times: (610) 433-8903, 19th St. Allentown

## LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL CONDUCTS HIV VACCINE RESEARCH & YOU MAY BE ABLE TO HELP

The Department of Medicine at Lehigh Valley Hospital, under the auspices of the AIDS Activities Office, is conducting a clinical research study to help test a vaccine for the prevention of HIV infection. The goal of the study is to assess the safety, tolerability and effectiveness of a new HIV vaccine. There is no risk of acquiring HIV from the vaccine. Healthy HIV-negative volunteers are needed to help with this important project. As a study volunteer YOU can help combat the disease that impacts every person on the planet. An honorarium is provided as compensation for your time and participation. For more information, please call Tim Friel MD or Denise White RN at 610-402-2404. Help stop the spread of HIV - today.

## GLOSS 2004 SKATING

GLOSS is planning two roller skating events in 2004. They will be: April 1, 2004 and October 7, 2004. The April event will benefit PA-GALA.

## STEVIE Z SCHEDULE

StevieZ the Piano Man will be appearing at the MooseLounge (Stonewall) on Friday Jan 9 from 9PM-Mid. No cover before 11PM. Half of all tips received will go to Lambda Legal Defense.

Stevie will return to the MooseLounge on Friday February 20, same times and same cover charge info. Tips will be shared with PRIDE of the Lehigh Valley.

## PFLAG TIMES

PFLAG LV (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) meets monthly at Allentown's First Presbyterian Church (Cedar Crest Blvd. and Tilghman Sts.) on first Tuesdays, at 7:00 pm., Rm 115. Contact: [pflag@fast.net](mailto:pflag@fast.net) or (610) 967-5219 for information. There are also PFLAG meetings in Reading, Pottsville & Monroe County: See page 4 for dates and times.

## GLOSS EVENTS

GLOSS Pinocle meets the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 at a location in Allentown. The currently scheduled dates are January 6 & 20, February 3 & 17, March 2 & 16, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18. GLOSS bowling meets the second Friday of every month at 8:30 at the Rose Bowl, 15th St. & Sumner Ave. in Allentown. Dinner usually precedes the event. GLOSS is also forming a group for skiing and snowboarding. Trips are planned to the local ski areas. For more information on these activities call 610-434-2966, email [Info@gloss.org](mailto:Info@gloss.org) or visit the website at [www.gloss.org](http://www.gloss.org).

## MCC LIFE COURSE

Purpose Driven Life Course

You are not an accident. Even before the universe was created, God had you in mind and God planned you for God's purposes. These purposes will extend far beyond the few years you will spend on earth! Do you know why you are on earth? Take this course and know God's purpose for you! Meeting 7 p.m. every Tuesday of Lent at MCCLV. Please register for this course by e-mailing the church office [atmcclehighvalley@yahoo.com](mailto:atmcclehighvalley@yahoo.com) or calling MCCLV at 610-709-8800.

Participants will be asked to purchase two books: "The Purpose Drive Life" and "The Purpose Driven Church," both written by Rick Warren. MCCLV will be buying them in bulk to save money. The books will cost a total of \$15 (please see the Pastor if you need the books donated to you).

## FOR LEGAL INFO ON 2ND PARENT ADOPTION

...or if your lawyer has questions call The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights in Philadelphia toll free at 1-866-LGBT-LAW.



# CALENDAR

**AA** --AA meetinss on Wednesdays at MCCLV. Begin at 7pm  
**ACCO**- A Chorus Celebrating Women.  
**AIDS Outreach**-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424  
**AIDSWALK**- AIDS WALK Lehigh Valley - 610.974.8701 www.regiononline.com/laids  
**ASC**- AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701  
**BMA**- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360  
**B&N**- Barnes and Noble Gay&Lesbian Book Club. White Hall store, Monthly, 7:00pm  
**BEARS**-.1st Saturdays Monthly, 8pm, at the Stonewall, Moose Lounge 610-814-6916, Mtnbear@fast.net.  
**CIVIC and 19th St.** Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, <civictheater.com>  
**Enigma Players**-- qacres@prolog.net  
**equal@agere**- email: equal@agere.com  
**FACT**- Fighting AIDS Continuous Together 610.820.5519  
**GLEE** at Air Products  
**GLISN**- at Dun & Bradstreet, <vagrantlyhollow.com/GLISN/>  
**GLORA**- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (Social gatherings, various dates) Newsletter- The Tassle. Write to: GLORA, PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541, email: GLORAINPA@AOL.COM  
**GLOSS** - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610.434.2966  
**GLOW**-at PPL  
**GLSEN**-Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Education Network, 610-867-6641, csbarron21@aol.com Meetings, at 7:00pm fourth Mondays at MCC  
**GMLV**- Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley, 2nd Saturdays Monthly 7pm, 610-709-8800  
**HAVEN** GLBT Youth Group of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or zinnes@verizon.net  
**HMFF**-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716  
**Integrity**- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 gamba.guy@verizon.net  
**LVGMC** -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvmgc.org> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem  
**MCC** - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclhighvalley@yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-709-8800  
**NCC**- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541 (#1386) or 882-2531  
**19th St & Civic Theatre** - 610.432.8943  
**Out There**- Students at Cedar Crest College  
**OVOM**- LV Documentary Film Org.  
**PA-GALA** - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for Political Action, (Candidate Info Booklet, & Political Lobbying) For membership: send \$20 to: P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610.432.5449 pa-gala.org  
**PARENTS**- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519  
**PFLAG** - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 <HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/>  
**Pride** - Pride of the Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <lvpride@hotmail.com>, <www.pridelv.org>  
**QUEST** - Student group at Lafayette College <QuEST\_Lafayette@hotmail.com>

## JANUARY 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 MCC WALKING 19th St. Movie RAA	2 MCC Stories	3 WDIY 7Senses BEARS GLOSS
4 WDIY HMFF UUCV MCC	5 19th St. Movie RAA 7Senses	6 GLOSS MCC LV PFLAG LVGMC	7 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	8 GLOSS PRIDE Bd. RAA MCC WALKING	9 7Senses StevieZ	10 WDIY GLOSS 7Senses
11 HMFF UUCV MCC GLOSS Bowling	12 19th St. Movie RAA	13 LVGMC PFLAG R MCC BOOK	14 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	15 RAA GLOSS MCC WALKING	16	17 GLOSS GLORA WDIY GLOSS
18 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	19th St. Movie RAA	20 GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB LVGMC	21 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	22 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P MCC WALKING	23	24 WDIY GLOSS 7Senses
25 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	26 GLSEN 19th St. Movie RAA	27 7Senses GLOSS LVGMC MCC BOOK	28 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	29 RAA GLOSS MCC WALKING	30	31 WDIY GLOSS 7Senses

## FEBRUARY 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	2 RAA 7Senses	3 LV PFLAG LVGMC GLOSS	4 HAVEN AA PFLAG M MCC Yoga	5 ACCO GLOSS MCC WALKING RAA	6 MCC Stories	7 WDIY BEARS GLOSS 7Senses
8 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	9 RAA	10 MCC BOOK FACT BINGO LVGMC GLOSS	11 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	12 ACCO RAA GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB MCC WALKING	13 MCC Marriage Action 7Senses	14 MCC National Freedom to Mar
15 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	16 RAA	17 GLOSS LVGMC	18 AA HAVEN MCC Yoga	19 ACCO RAA GLOSS PFLAG P	20 StevieZ	21 WDIY GLOSS
22 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	23 RAA GLSEN	24 PFLAG R MCC BOOK 7Senses B&N BOOKCLUB	25 HAVEN AA MCC Yoga	26 ACCO RAA MCC WALKING	27 Gay Men's Chorus Concer	28 GLOSS 7Senses WDIY
29 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS						

## MARCH 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 RAA	2 LV PFLAG GLOSS LVGMC	3 HAVEN PFLAG M AA MCC Movie	4 RAA ACCO GLOSS MCC WALKING	5 MCC Stories Gay Men's Chorus Concert Pride Nerp Conv.	6 GLOSS BEARS Queer Concert
7 Gay Men's Chorus MCC	8 RAA	9 GLOSS LVGMC MCC BOOK	10 HAVEN MCC Movie AA	11 MCC WALKING RAA ACCO GLOSS B&N BOOKCLUB	12	13 GLOSS WDIY
14 HMFF UUCV MCC GLOSS	15 RAA	16 GLOSS LVGMC	17 HAVEN MCC Movie AA	18 ACCO PFLAG P RAA GLOSS MCC WALKING	19	20 MCC Latin Dance
21 HMFF MCC UUCV WDIY GLOSS	22 RAA GLSEN	23 MCC BOOK LVGMC GLOSS	24 AA MCC Movie	25	26	27 GLORA GLOSS WDIY
28 GLORA HMFF UUCV MCC GLOSS WDIY	29 RAA	30 GLOSS LVGMC	31 HAVEN AA MCC Movie			



**Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route**  
512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA.  
Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.

**RAA- Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs.**  
At 16th and Turner.

**Ren- Renaissance Transgendered Assoc.,**  
P.O.Box 157 Trexlertown 18087 - 610-814-0530/0531

**Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College**  
Organization 610.821.3244

**Reading P-FLAG- 610.488.7533or 670.8029**

**Safe Space- At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973**

**Saint John's Lutheran Church- A welcoming,**  
gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown  
610.435.1587

**Softball- (Women's) call Diamondz, 610.865.1028**

**Spectrum- at Lehigh Univ. 610.758.5973**

**T.O. - Theatre Outlet-29 Nth 9th St, Allentown,**  
610-820-9270.

**Unity- 26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417**

**UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424**  
Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.

**VFP - Valley Free Press. 610.432.5449,**  
liztrish@aol.com

**VYH - Valley Youth House for emotionally**  
troubled GLBT youth 610.432.6481

**Wachovia-GALEA- Gay And Lesbian Employee**  
Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com

**WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 7:00 pm This**  
Way Out, Assorted Women 7:30 pm. 610-694-8100.88.

## **SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**GLBT YOUTH GROUP**  
**HAVEN- WEDNESDAYS**  
**LV BEARS- 1ST SATURDAYS**  
**GAY MEN-LV - 2ND SATURDAYS**  
**LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS**  
**MONROE PFLAG- 1ST THURSDAYS**  
**READING- PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS**  
**POTTSVILLE PFLAG**  
**- 3RD THURSDAYS**  
**GLOSS VOLLEYBALL- TUESDAYS**  
**GLSEN - 4TH MONDAYS**  
**GLOSS TENNIS- SUNDAYS**  
**GLOSS RACQUETBALL- TUES & SATS**  
**MCC BOOZ STUBBY- 2ND & 4TH TUES**  
**MCC WALKING- THURSDAYS**  
**MCC READINGS&COFFEE- 1ST FRIDAYS**

**JAN 1- 19TH ST ANIMATION FESTIVAL**

**JAN 2 - MCC SHORT STORIES**

**JAN 3- 7SENSES LABYRINTH WALK**

**JAN 3-11 - 19TH ST. LUTHER**

**JAN 5- 7SENSES CIRCLE**

**JAN 6 - LEHIGH VALLEY PFLAG**

**JAN 7- MCC YOGA**

**JAN 8 - PRIDE BOARD MTG**

**JAN 9 - 7SENSES DRUM CIRCLE**

**JAN 9 - STEVEZ @ MOOSE LOUNGE**

**JAN 10 - 7SENSES BREATHING GRP**

**JAN 10-18 -19TH ST. STATION AGENT**

**JAN 17- 25 - 19TH ST. BELL CIRCLE**

**JAN 20 - B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB**

**JAN 21 - MCC YOGA**

**JAN 24 - 7SENSES REIKI WKSH**

**JAN 27 - 7SENSES WOMENS DRUM CIRCLE**

**JAN 28 - MCC YOGA**

**JAN 31 - 7SENSES JOURNALING WRKSH**

**FEB 2 - 7SENSES HEALING CIRCLE**

**FEB 3 - LEHIGH VALLEY PFLAG**

**FEB 4 - MCC YOGA**

**FEB 7 - 7SENSES LABYRINTH WALK**

**FEB 8 - FACT BINGO**

**FEB 11 - MCC YOGA**

**FEB 12 - B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB**

**FEB 13 - MCC MARRIAGE ACTION**

**FEB 13 - 7SENSES DRUM CIRCLE**

**FEB 14 - MCC & PFLAG NTFMD CELEBRATIO**

**FEB 18 - MCC YOGA**

**FEB 20 - STEVEZ @ MOOSE LOUNGE**

**FEB 27-28 - LVGMC**

**FEB 24 - 7SENSES WOMENS DRUM CIRCLE**

**FEB 28 - 7SENSES REIKI WKSH**

**MAR 2 - LEHIGH VALLEY PFLAG**

**MAR 3 MCC 'DEAD MAN WALKING**

**MAR 5 - 7 - LVGMC**

**MAR 5-7 - PRIDE NERP CONFERENCE**

**MAR 6 - PRIDE QUEER CONCERT**

**MAR 10 - MCC BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE**

**MAR 11 - B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB**

**MAR 17 - MCC '9-5'**

**MAR 20 - MCC LATIN DANCE**

**MAR 24 - MCC 'MISSION'**

**MAR 31 - MCC 'SET IT OFF'**

**APR 7 - MCC 'BOYS DON'T CRY'**

**APR 1 - GLOSS SKATING**

**APR 21 - NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE**

**INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**

**TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449 LIZTRISH@AOL.COM**

## **UPCOMING PRIDE EVENTS**

The 2003 Pride Queen Sylvia Silverberg and the 2003 Pride King Sebastian invite you to their upcoming benefits for Pride. For complete details see [www.prideglv.org/events.htm](http://www.prideglv.org/events.htm).

## **TOY DRIVE THANKS**

Pride thanks everyone who donated a toy to the 2003 Wrapped In Rainbow Holiday Toy Drive at Diamondz and Stonewall. With your help, Pride made a generous donation to Spirit of the Valley. The toys donated were distributed to local children in need at a dinner on Christmas Eve at the Sheraton Jetport. Next year, Pride hopes to expand the program with more drop off locations and even more community support!

## **THE RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FORMS**

The Rainbow Scholarship Fund is an alliance of community service, civic, social, and religious organizations whose main goal is to provide financial support for college bound Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) students who reside in the Greater Lehigh Valley. Local organizations and individuals who want to join this Lehigh Valley history making initiative can do so with an annual \$100 contribution, or participation in the Pride Pass campaign. To join the alliance and/or for more details, email [ckristofik@prideglv.org](mailto:ckristofik@prideglv.org).

## **THE 2004 PRIDE PASS - ON SALE NOW!**

Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley introduces the 2004 Pride Pass, a card sized voucher with discounts and offers from over 20 area merchants, offered exclusively to Pride Pass cardholders. Cards are \$10 and are good through 12/31/04. Proceeds benefit Pride, \$1.00 will go directly to The Rainbow Scholarship Fund. The 2004 Pride Pass can be purchased online, by contacting the PrideLine at 610.770.6200, or by contacting any of the Pride Board Members.

## **STILL COUNTING**

The PA Superior Court election between John Driscoll (D) and Susan Gantman (R) is undecided. 2.2 million votes were cast. Gantman leads with 30 to 300 votes. Neither candidate bothered to answer PA-GALA's questionnaire. PA-GALA sent out 15,000 endorsement cards.

## **MCC YOGA**

YOGA is happening at MCCLV! Wednesdays from Jan. 7 to Febr. 18, Robert Roush of MCCLV will be conducting Yoga classes. Cost will be \$5.00, and proceeds will benefit the church. Yoga will be held in the MCCLV sanctuary at 7 p.m. Come and join in YOGA! Questions? call: 610-709-8800.

## **RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY**

Yea! Woo-hoo! We caught him! We caught the dirty bastard that blasted through the Twin Towers. We caught the scumbag who organized the attack on the Pentagon and downed a plane load of innocents in western PA. We caught Osama bin...What? Whaddya mean we didn't capture Bin Laden? Huessein? So what? What did Huessein ever do that wasn't funded by Uncle Sam?

Let me clear this smoke screen and attempt to read through the propaganda being fed to us by the Bush administration. We have not caught the world's leading terrorist. The person responsible for thousands of senseless acts of mass destruction and therefore thousands of senseless deaths is Bin Laden.

And now Bush is the hero of the world because, as one person I reminded said, "Oh yeah, I forgot about Bin Laden." It's easy to forget about Bin Laden and with an election year coming up, that's just what the Bush team is hoping we do. Not that the Dems had a prayer anyway, but now we might as well save our money for a Clinton/Gore ticket in 2008. (That would be Hillary & Tipper). Don't get me wrong (and it's easy to do with my loose association ramblings), I am pleased that Huessein is in custody, but c'mon every US president in our lifetimes had a hand in his success as a dictator. So, I start this new year disgusted with our President, his administration and our own complacency as his unquestioning, obedient followers. Shame on him, but worse, shame on us. You get what you settle for.

On a lighter note. Fearless predictions for the Oscars (since they will be awarded in February this year). Picture: Gigli. Just kidding. **Lord of the Rings: Return of the King** (I want to view the deleted scenes of Viggo and Orlando crossing swords in their boxer briefs - don't tell me they don't exist!) Actor: **Sean Penn** (simply the best and he still looks great in his boxer briefs too) Actress: **Diane Keaton** (not so much best actress, as most welcome return and one great line, "I thought I had closed up shop"- ouch) Director: Please reward **Peter Jackson** for his vision (and for that footage of Viggo & Orlando I know he possesses)

And now for a few awards of my own, **THE STEVIES**: Best Comeback: **Ellen De Generes** (movies, tv, books - she did it all) Best Reality Show: **QFTSG** (if you need me to spell it out, you haven't earned your gaycard) Best new rock group: **Jet** (they rock like the Rolling Stones used to) Best Song: **Crazy in Love & Are You Gonna be My Girl**. Best TV: **Angels in America** Best Movie: **Finding Nemo & Lost in Translation**. Until next time, may peace and love find and surprise you during this new year. XO, Steve.





Valley Free Press seeks an editor for the monthly Planet Parenthood column. If you are part of a GLBT family with children and would like to write this column, or would commit to organizing other parents to write monthly columns, please contact VFP: 610-432-5449, [liztrish@aol.com](mailto:liztrish@aol.com).

## PRIDE WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

The all new Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley ([www.prideglv.org](http://www.prideglv.org)) would like the welcome Gene Kelly and Liz Sherry who were appointed to the board at the Annual Meeting held on December 10. These two talented leaders will each serve a two year term helping Pride achieve its mission to build safe inclusive communities in eastern Pennsylvania.

The 2003 - 2004 Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley Board of Directors:

Constance Kristofik, President - [ckristofik@prideglv.org](mailto:ckristofik@prideglv.org)  
 Mark Bodkin, Vice-President - [mbodkin@prideglv.org](mailto:mbodkin@prideglv.org)  
 Pam Pillsbury, Secretary - [ppillsbury@prideglv.org](mailto:ppillsbury@prideglv.org)  
 Chris Banko, Treasurer - [cbanko@prideglv.org](mailto:cbanko@prideglv.org)  
 Rita Bouchededid, Board Member - [rbouchededid@prideglv.org](mailto:rbouchededid@prideglv.org)  
 Michael Fried, Board Member - [mfried@prideglv.org](mailto:mfried@prideglv.org)  
 Gene Kelly, Board Member - [gkelly@prideglv.org](mailto:gkelly@prideglv.org)  
 Liz Sherry, Board Member - [lsberry@prideglv.org](mailto:lsberry@prideglv.org)  
 Brad Wentz, Board Member - [bwentz@prideglv.org](mailto:bwentz@prideglv.org)

## PRIDE JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The first board meeting of the New Year will be held Thursday, January 8 at 7:00pm at the Merchants Square Mall. At this meeting the annual budget will be approved by the board and members of the community who have attended at least one Pride meeting in the past year. Email [ckristofik@prideglv.org](mailto:ckristofik@prideglv.org) for directions and meeting room specifics or visit [www.prideglv.org/meetings.htm](http://www.prideglv.org/meetings.htm). All Pride meetings are open to the public.

## PRIDE GETS NEW WEB ADDRESS

Be sure to visit the new pride website at [www.prideglv.org](http://www.prideglv.org).

## PRIDE TO HOST 2004 NERP CONFERENCE

Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley has been selected to host the 2004 Northeast Regional Pride Conference March 5 - 7 at The Hotel Bethlehem in Bethlehem, PA. Pride organization delegates representing Region 6 (11 states & DC) of Interpride ([www.interpride.org](http://www.interpride.org)) will converge for a weekend of workshops, networking, and fun!

## PRIDE IN THE PARK VENDOR PACKS IN THE MAIL

The 2004 Pride in the Park celebration will be held on Sunday, June 20 from 12 - 9pm. The 2004 Pride Parade will march down Hamilton Street stepping off at 12 noon. Opening ceremonies at Cedar Beach Park will begin at 1pm with the festivities ending at 9pm. 2004 festival improvements include a new name and logo, new location on "higher ground" at Cedar Beach Park, extended festival time, a Pride Pub, and much more! Vendor packs were mailed to groups who participated in previous Pride events. For a vendor packet, email your name and mailing address to [mbodkin@prideglv.org](mailto:mbodkin@prideglv.org).

## QUEER CONCERT HOSTED BY PRIDE

Pride will host a concert of GLBT musicians on Saturday, March 6 from 9 to 11pm. The event titled, "Rainbow Riffs - A Queer Concert of Visionary Voices," will include performances by celebrated musicians in the Queer community. Tickets are \$15.00 (general admission), \$10.00 (students with ID).

6

## SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



## 2003 IN REVIEW

Was 2003 a good year for gay folks? Being an optimist I always see the glass as half full. (Did I drink half of my cocktail already?) The events highlighted here show that it was a banner year for the gay world.

Gains were made on the legal field. Slowly but surely courts throughout North America are recognizing that centuries of bias and prejudice relating to the GLBT community should finally end. In June, the US Supreme Court in Lawrence V. Texas correctly decided that consensual gay sex is not a criminal offense. Then in November, the Supreme Court of Massachusetts approved the concept of same-sex marriage and have given the state legislature a deadline to change the law. Also north of the border, Ontario and British Columbia, two Canadian provinces, have agreed to legalize same-sex marriage.

In the sphere of organized religion, advances were made also. In November, Gene Robinson was consecrated in New Hampshire as the first openly gay Episcopal bishop. Some have predicted this will lead to a schism in the Episcopal denomination, but at the time of this writing a split has not happened. I predict the Episcopal Church will actually grow stronger because of this move.

Culturally, gay folks scored big time. Queer Eye for the Straight Guy was the most talked about show this summer, as Angels in America has also received much coverage this winter. I am also reminded of how queers captured the bulk of the 2003 Tony awards. If you watched the ceremony this year you saw the live same sex kiss, when Scott Wittman and Marc Shaiman won for best original score (music and lyrics) for Hairspray.

Already 2004 looks to be a promising year. On January 1st, the General Electric Company will add domestic partner benefits to its union contracts. Seven of the top Fortune ten companies value their gay and lesbian employees. That all this is happening during George W. Bush's conservative administration makes it even more momentous. The glass is half full and I need a refill.

## NEW ATOWN HEALTH BUREAU HOURS

The Allentown Health Bureau will be changing the hours for the Sexually Transmitted Disease treatment services. Effective December 22, AHB will implement a Blood Testing Clinic on Mondays from 9:30am-10:30am. No appointment necessary, HIV testing, syphilis testing, Hep C antibody testing (for those who qualify) and immunization (HepA vaccine, Hep B vaccine, Twinrix) will be offered. Effective 1/6/04 full STD work-ups (gonorrhea and chlamydia screening along with the blood draws) will be offered on a walk-in basis every Tuesday from 1-5pm. There will no longer be a Wednesday evening clinic at AHB.

## GROUPS AND BUSINESSES SUPPORT ALLENTOWN'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION LAW

All Together Now has signed onto the statement of anti-discrimination on the back of the Valley Free Press. A number of businesses and organizations have also signed onto the brief that pro-diversity lawyers have filed in support of Allentown's anti-discrimination ordinance. At the time the brief was filed these groups include: Air Products, PPL, Steven and Johnson, Perlis Montessori School, All Together Now, Grace Episcopal Church, MCCLV, AIDS Outreach, LV Community Action Committee, GLSEN, LEPOCO, Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance, Alliance for Sustainable Communities, Turing Point, State Rep. Jennifer Mann, ACLU-PA, The Center for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights, Eastern PAPFLG, Penn Alliance for Democracy, PA-GALA, PA-NOW, SPARC, Valley Free Press, Student Mobilization Project. Because this is an Allentown issue, most of these groups either are in Allentown, or are state-wide organizations.





## LIZ OUT LOUD

*By Liz Bradbury*

### VALLEY FREE PRESS HONORS 2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY

Let's honor some of the people right here in the Lehigh Valley who have succeeded in making positive civil rights changes for the local GLBT community. (Groups and individuals are listed in alphabetical order)

**All Together Now** -- lead by several people including **Jim Palmquist, Erin Puffenberger and Rachel Thompson**, encouraged local mainstream Christian churches to be more inclusive of GLBT people. Juggling media and public relations, All Together Now pulled together a large inclusive service in November at the Wesley Church in Bethlehem.

**Dan Anders of the law firm Pepper Hamilton LLP** -- has been the lead attorney helping to ensure the retention of Allentown's anti-discrimination ordinance since it was first threatened by referendum petition last year. Dan continues to put in countless hours, now fighting the lawsuit threatening the City's law. The Lehigh Valley GLBT community is lucky to be able to count Dan Anders as our friend and supporter. Other law firms and attorneys who are also supporting Allentown's anti-discrimination are: **Malcolm Gross and John Gross, of Gross, McKinley, Lebarre, and Eaton; Edward N. Cahn of Blank Rome LLP; Edward M. Posner, Mary Catherine Roper, and Viktoriya Meyerov of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP; Cynthia L. Schneider and Stacey Sobel of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights; Lawrence E. Frankel of the American Civil Liberties Union/PA, and many others.**

**David Ball and Tim Hare** -- worked with PA-GALA and on their own to talk to Easton candidates and local voters in support of GLBT civil rights in Easton. The election of several fair minded supportive candidates, including Mayor Phil Mittman, were influenced by information that David and Tim helped to provide. When GLBT people have legal rights in Easton that success may ultimately trace back to their work.

**Donna Cruciani** -- founded and is President of **GLOW at PPL**. Pro-GLBT policies and PPL signing onto the brief supporting the Allentown Anti-Discrimination Ordinance stem from GLOW and the supportive people working at all levels of PPL.

**Air Products and Chemicals and GLEE** -- Air Products, also signed onto the brief supporting the anti-discrimination ordinance of Allentown. GLEE members helped to ensure this support.

**Carson Kressley** -- Queer Eye favorite son has supported the LV GLBT community by generously attending Pride and Queer film festival events and showing local GLBT youth that being yourself is the road to success. Carson's generosity goes far beyond a few public appearances. We all agree Carson... you're the best one!

**Steve Glassman** -- was appointed this year by Gov. Rendell to be head of the State Human Relations Commission. Steve continues to work everyday, both publicly and behind the scenes to ensure all minority and disenfranchised people in PA are treated fairly.

**Gwen Greenberg** -- Gwen came out just about as publicly as any GLBT person could. Allowing a reporter into her life for a two page article, was a brave and selfless act which educated tens of thousands of people. That, after bringing a public lawsuit against her employer for anti-transgender and anti-gender discrimination, will help protect others that come along after her. Gwen does not have to blaze this trail. She is doing it because it is the right thing to do.

**James Hallemann** -- James aided a transgender person in a fight against institutionalized discrimination and won on a variety of levels. His efforts not only got someone's life back on track, but educated a number of organizations and businesses as to what is right and fair.

## 7 TRISH'S COLUMN

*By Patricia Sullivan*



**Patrick Malloy** -- As an openly gay Episcopal Priest, Father Malloy found himself the constant Lehigh Valley spokesperson with regard to the consecration of Bishop Gene Robinson.

**MCC** -- When the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley dedicated its new worship space. Their effort to include a variety of people in the celebration forged a strong bond with the **Puerto Rican Cultural Committee**, which along with many other organizations signed on to the brief in support of Allentown's anti-discrimination law. Also **MCC's 2003 Freedom to Marry Day Celebration** included actual same-sex marriage ceremonies replayed on TV news. MCC also staged a public demonstration at the Northampton County Court House against the lack of equal marriage rights for same-sex couples.

**PA-GALA** -- was perhaps the only GLBT voter organization in the country which produced questionnaires to send to state-wide candidates for judge. GLBT organizations all over the US contacted PA-GALA for its questionnaire model. Pennsylvania GLBT citizens were more likely to make informed decisions on judge candidates due to the 15,000 piece state-wide voter guide mailing sent out by PA-GALA.

**Sue Sneeringer** -- created the play Bricks and brought together several community organizations and hundreds of people to not only view the play but use the occasion to meet and speak with candidates for public office.

**Rachel Thompson** -- even though Rachel suffered a serious traffic accident this year, she continued her work as an activist, working with All Together Now, and writing constantly to local media with information on important GLBT civil rights issues.

**Charles Versaggi** -- ran for Allentown School Board as an openly gay candidate. He was maligned by anti-gay bigots who were funded by a state-wide far right organization. They sent out mailings attacking him solely because he is a gay man. He stood his ground, and he won anyway.

**Gail Hoover** -- even though she was not running for office this year, anti-minority candidates attacked Gail primarily because of the work she has done to support the GLBT community. It is quite clear that if Gail were not gay, she would not have been the target of these attacks.

**Honorable Mention: All the people** who supported the nomination of **Don and Melinda Kohn** for the Human Relations Commission Award, and Don and Melinda themselves for their strong speech at the HRC Banquet. And, to everyone who has done activist work or written pro-tolerance letters to the editor - thanks for your efforts. Some of these people have received horrible hate mail in response to their efforts, but they bravely continue to speak out for equality.

In 2003, the **Valley Free Press** itself has had several important successes: These include: The Who's Who directory of 77 GLBTA leaders of the community; Research on insurance companies that will provide domestic partnership benefits to small businesses; The estate planning presentation with Jerry Snyder in conjunction with MCC; A successful effort along with a VFP reader to overturn censorship of gay information at the library; And successful encouragement of the local Dominoes Franchise to create an anti-discrimination policy that includes sexual orientation and gender identity. This is VFP's 60th issue, which means over 60,000 Valley Free Press editions have been printed and circulated.

Finally, let's be sure to commend everyone of the local LV GLBTA groups that work everyday for the good of our community. Over 30 local organizations, 99% of which are run by volunteers, do amazing wonderful things everyday. Every organization mentioned in this paper all year long deserves our respect and support. Here's to all of you!

Valley Free Press does not discriminate on the bases listed in the anti-discrimination statement on page 8, and asks that organizations or individuals which request VFP to publish information about their events maintain a similar policy.



# POP QUIZ

8

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

## PA-GALA

Valley Free Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

FLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORIA

Pride of the LV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCC

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater 19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

All Together Now

To add your organization to this list, call 610-432-5449 or email listnsh@aol.com

## QUOTE #1

At a press conference in Washington, D.C., the National Black Justice Coalition launched a campaign to win support for same-sex marriage within the country's African-American communities, and to help defeat the effort to ban same-sex marriage through an amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The group has the support of such leading figures as Coretta Scott King, Carol Moseley Braun, Rev. Al Sharpton, Congressman John Lewis and Whoopi Goldberg. --From PlanetOut

## QUOTE #2

Then, last month, Gustavo Archilla, 88, and Elmer Lokkins, 84, crossed the Canadian border near Niagara Falls and were married... The couple had been together for 58 years. --In the NY Times By ANDREA ELLIOTT, Dec. 16

## QUOTE #3

30 years from now a grandchild or a neighbor or the person sitting next to you on the bus is going to ask you: "Did you stand up for equality?" They will wonder if you took a stand for marriage equality.

The opportunity to stand up for same-sex marriage is coming up soon, on February 13, 2004. Please plan ahead and request the day off from work or plan to join in over your lunch hour. --Encouragement from MCCLV to join its pro same-sex marriage action at the Lehigh County Courthouse

## QUOTE #4

This summer the country of Canada legalized same-sex marriage and the provinces of Ontario and British Columbia are giving out marriage licenses. And Canada has not disappeared, they did not break off from the world and sink into the ocean. --Rev. Beth Goudy, Christmas Eve Sermon on opening the doors and welcoming the world

## QUOTE #5

According to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, the three officers are the highest-ranking military leaders to reveal they are gay. In the (NY Times) article, Brigadier General Keith Kerr, Brigadier General Virgil A. Richard and Rear Admiral Alan M. Steinman blasted "don't ask, don't tell" as damaging to military readiness and the recruitment and retention of service members. -- From PlanetOut

Distelfink® by Ruby Zebu 1/04 "Bush on the Bumpers in '04"

George W. Bush: It takes a village idiot

Bush/Cheney: Asses of Evil

Bush/Cheney '04: Putting the "con" in conservatism

Bush/Cheney '04: Thanks for not paying attention.

Register to vote in 2004 ... or else!

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Free Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VFP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.

So...you think you know OZ?

1. What year was MGM's Wizard of Oz movie released?  
A. 1939 B. 1940 C. 1941 D. 1942
2. Besides the Cowardly Lion, Bert Lahr also plays the farmhand.  
A. Huck B. Zeke C. Jeb D. Hickory
3. When Dorothy and the Scarecrow enter the apple orchard, what kind of live bird is sitting on a tree branch? A. Toucan B. Crow C. Peacock D. Dove
4. Billie Burke, who played Glinda, was married to:  
A. Florence Zeigfeld B. Rudolph Valentino  
C. John Barrymore D. Fatty Arbuckle
5. How many chops did it take to break down the door in the Witch's Castle? A. 5 B. 7 C. 11 D. 21
6. What is Dorothy's last name?  
A. Small B. Dale C. Grey D. Gale
7. About how long had the Tin Man been holding up his axe? A. a week B. a month  
C. a year D. over a year
8. Dorothy actually says...To to, we're not in Kansas anymore. A. I've a feeling B. I think  
C. don't you think D. I wonder if
9. In the original Wizard of Oz book, Glinda the Witch of the North is actually the Witch of the:  
A. South B. North C. Wind D. East
10. The guards of the Wicked Witch are: A. Winkies  
B. Munchkins C. Gillikens D. Quadlings

1. 1392 2. B 3. A 4. C 5. 7 6. B 7. D 8. A 9. A 10. A

## QUOTE #6

This (anti-gay activist) woman's desperate lies had one purpose: to stoke the fear that strikes some straight people at the prospect of losing their unique access to civil matrimony. Forget about Leviticus and AIDS and the "natural order" and the ick factor, those are just excuses. The right's real argument against civil same-sex marriage comes down to this: If gays get marriage, being straight will no longer get you special rights. Homosexuality will at last be as normal as heterosexuality. -- Bruce C. Steele, Editor in Chief of the Advocate

TO GET A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE VALLEY FREE PRESS JOIN PA-GALA BY SENDING \$20 TO: PA-GALA, P.O. BOX 20825 LEHIGH VALLEY, PA 18002

Valley Free Press is produced by RubyZebu Productions which owns the copyright thereto. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the editors. Editors: Elizabeth Bradbury Patricia Sullivan; Columnists: Elizabeth Bradbury Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKeever, Ruby Zebu, Carolyn Lewis, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner and others